A Conduct

- 6. (New) A communications and measurement apparatus as set forth in claim 5, wherein the front face includes a removable cover plate, and wherein the common backplane includes a side provided with a plurality of plugs facing the front face, the plugs being provided behind the removable cover plate.
- 7. (New) A communications and measurement apparatus as set forth in claim 5, further comprising an additional backplane coupled to the housing and associated with the data processing module, wherein the extra module is connected to the additional backplane through a plug-and-socket connection and a short conductor segment.
- 8. (New) A communications and measurement apparatus as set forth in claim 5, further comprising a fan device mounted in the housing underneath the data processing module, the extra module, and the additional modules --

IN THE ABSTRACT

Line 9, delete "(14 through 19)".

Line 10, delete "(13)".

Line 11, delete "(10)", "(1)", and "(11A)".

Line 12, delete "(11A)" and "(21)".

Line 13, delete "(14 through 19)".

Line 14, delete each occurrence of "(11A)".